



BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, September 22, 2020

BOARD MEMBERS:

Georgia Hanigan, Commissioner, Payette County - present
Nate Marvin, Commissioner, Washington County - (present via Zoom)
Tom Dale, Commissioner, Canyon County – present
Kelly Aberasturi, Commissioner, Owyhee County – present
Viki Purdy, Commissioner, Adams County — not present
Sam Summers, MD, Physician Representative – present
Bryan Elliott, Commissioner, Gem County - present

STAFF MEMBERS:

Nikki Zogg, Katrina Williams, Olivia Howard, Jaime Aanensen

Via Zoom: Doug Doney, Troy Cunningham, Clay Roscoe, Ashley Anderson, Ricky Bowman, Rachel Pollreis, Carol Julius

GUESTS: Sarah Andrade, Lifeways; Approximately 19 members of the public attending in person; Guests viewing live stream via SWDH You Tube page.

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Elliott called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

No changes to the agenda were noted.

MOTION: Commissioner Dale moved to approve the agenda as presented. Dr. Summers seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carries.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Several members of the public presented public comments to the Board of Health members.

Southwest District Health (SWDH) does not intend to mandate COVID-19 vaccinations. Currently, six vaccines are under development. Five of them are for adults only. Southwest District Health District Director Nikki Zogg clarified if a vaccine is proven to be effective and passes through the clinical trials, SWDH will offer points of dispensing (PODs) clinics to administer the vaccination to those who wish to receive it; vaccinating high-priority groups first as determined by federal guidance.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

New employees from Clinics Division were introduced.

APPROVE AUGUST 25, 2020 BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

Board members reviewed the August 25, 2020 Board of Health meeting minutes. No changes were noted.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Commissioner Dale moved to approve the August 25, 2020 Board of Health meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Hanigan seconded the motion. All in favor; motion approved.

AUGUST 2020 EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE REPORT

Troy Cunningham, SWDH Financial Manager, presented the August 2020 Expenditure and Revenue report.

CARRY OVER AUTHORITY REQUESTS

Troy Cunningham presented several carry over authority requests and asked the Board to approve the addition of 1) \$120,733 to represent a total of \$190,760 carry over funding for Parents as Teachers; 2) \$10,792 received and not expended to be added as carry over funds for the Behavioral Health Board; and 3) \$7,102 received and not expended to be added as carry over funds for the Citizen's Review Panel.

MOTION: Commissioner Dale made a motion to authorize the carryover of the funds specified and put on the record. Commissioner Hanigan seconded the motion; all in favor. Motion carries.

COVID-19 SITUATION UPDATE

Doug Doney updated Board members on the agency's efforts to operationalize the COVID-19 pandemic event response by transitioning from an emergency response staffing structure to a managed program staffing structure while funding exists. Doug also provided a few highlights from the last few months. The SWDH COVID-19 call center remains very active with nearly 2,000 calls received between July 20 and September 20, 2020. The majority of the calls focus on testing info, travel guidance, guidance on best practices for opening and maintaining businesses, school inquiries, and the health alert levels.

CLINICS OPERATIONS UPDATE

Carol Julius, Clinic Services Division Administrator, provided an update on clinic services. Back to school immunization clinics were successful with ten on-site events and two Caldwell clinic events representing 416 children and teens immunized. Notus, Emmett, Fruitland, and Payette also had back to school vaccination clinics.

The electronic medical record change of vendor is completing data transfer work and staff training. The go-live date was initially set for July and was postponed due to delays in data transfer.

Dr. Clay Roscoe, Medical Director, updated board members on the health district's ongoing efforts to brainstorm methods for increased testing capacity for COVID-19. Clinic staff have several meetings this week to continue ongoing discussion with Northwest Nazarene University (NNU) regarding some interesting testing approaches on the campus with pooled saliva samples. A similar testing approach is underway at University of Idaho. In addition, Clay will be meeting with Boise State University (BSU) who is also learning about wastewater analysis and how to better develop their campus' testing approach. These efforts are in cooperation with Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (IDHW) COVID-19 Testing Taskforce and Brock Anderson, the IDHW contract testing site coordinator.

SEPTIC PROGRAM UPDATE

Jaime Aanensen, Environmental and Community Health Services Director, and Olivia Howard, Office Services Supervisor, provided information to Board members on the backlog of septic permits. In an effort to help contractors and homeowners navigate the application process, an online permit request process and how-to video are being developed.

WESTERN IDAHO COMMUNITY CRISIS CENTER UPDATE

Sarah Andrade, Lifeways Program Manager, provided an update on the Western Idaho Community Crisis Center (WICCC). The crisis center has been operating at full capacity recently.

Sarah explained some of the accommodations that the crisis center has made to allow for social distancing and COVID-19 precautions. Staff have seen an uptick in homelessness and stricter requirements at homeless shelters. Clients with food insecurity, job loss, job insecurity, and increased substance use disorder qualifiers are coming in.

In June 2020, the WICCC team provided 123 services, an average of 4.1 per day. In July, 280 services were provided for an average of 9.03 per day. In August, there was 448 intakes, an average of 14.45 per day, 63% higher than July. Sarah explained that some individuals check in more frequently and utilize the crisis centers as part of their safety plan to help avoid relapses. Payment for several serves has been collected through Optum and through United Health Care.

To date in September, 320 intakes have been completed, averaging approximately 14.55 per day.

SWDH COVID-19 HEALTH ALERT LEVEL UPDATE

Board members asked to review the Southwest District Health COVID-19 Health Alert Level metrics monthly. Rachel Pollreis, Research Analyst, Sr., presented updates for the Southwest District Health COVID-19 Health Alert Levels. She described current levels and where the region is trending currently.

Daily downward trend in incidence rates continue to be seen. The one metric that has been slightly altered is the positivity rate. That data are now available by county. Prior to that the district-wide positivity rate was used. Rachel explained that the incidence rate is definitely one of the most looked at metrics. She used the example of Gem County which saw an increase in incidence rate due largely to an isolated cluster outbreak in a boarding school. However, this high incidence rate did not impact the county's current health alert level because of other factors considered in the decisions (e.g., population size, congregate settings, community spread, etc.).

Board members discussed the value of the increased metrics and data being collected. Board members also discussed the difference in the health alert levels being used by other health districts. Central District Health is using fewer measures. Overall, Nikki explained that applying any of the set of measures adopted by each district would still yield the same conclusion with regard to risk for exposure and recommended mitigation strategies.

MOTION: Commissioner Hanigan made a motion to continue to utilize the health alert levels metrics and updates. Dr. Summers seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passes.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

There were no items for the Director's Report.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Nikole Zogg
Secretary to the Board

Approved as written:



Bryan Elliott
Chairman

Dated: October 27, 2020